



Getting to Know Famous People

Martha Taylor
Greene County Primary School
Greene County Public Schools

Curriculum Area	History and Social Science
Subject Area	U.S. History
Grade Level	1 st grade
Learning Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The student will be able to conduct research on a specific topic. The student will create a word-processed report on a famous person in American History. The student will integrate a digital graphic with their word processed report.
Correlation to the SOL	History K.1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 C/T 5.4
Video/Technology Hardware/Software Needed	For class: Digital Camera (one alternative) For each student: Multimedia Computer connected to a printer and possibly a scanner Word Processing Software (such as <i>Microsoft Word</i> or <i>ClarisWorks</i>) Drawing Software (such as <i>Microsoft Word</i> or <i>KidPix</i>)
Materials Required	For class: Various resources for students to use for research For each student: List of Biography Questions Evaluation rubric

Procedures/Activities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The teacher should provide a list of famous Americans from which students will choose a person to research. The students should have a copy of the grading rubric so they understand the requirements of their project and a copy of the list of Biography Questions to guide their work. 2. While the students research their topic, the teacher helps the students gather resources. 3. The students write, by hand, a paragraph about their famous person. The teacher evaluates the paragraph before the students go any further. 4. Students find a picture of their topic. They may choose to do any of the following: a) use drawing software to draw a picture of their person; b) use a scanner to scan in a picture of their person; or, c) dress up like their person and take a digital photo. Their picture should include symbols or attributes associated with their famous person. 5. Students create a new word processing document and place their digital picture into the document. Then type their paragraph next to or under the picture. 6. Students print a copy of their biography for each person in the class and the teacher collates them into a booklet.
Content Assessment	Students can be quizzed on the content of the various biographical paragraphs, using their booklet as reference.
Technology Integration Assessment	See attached rubric
Extensions	<p>Drama: Small groups of students randomly choose 2-3 characters from their booklet and create a short skit about what would happen if they should meet.</p> <p>Reading: First grade students can read their biographies to Kindergarten students to help them learn about famous people too.</p> <p>Art: Students can use their digital images separately to create a collage of American famous people, or a paper quilt.</p>

Biography Questions (to help you do your research)

Name of the person you choose:

When was he/she born?

When did he/she die?

Where did he/she live?

What events in American history happened during his/her life?

What did he/she do to become famous?

Make a note here of where you found good pictures of your person so you can find them later:

Evaluation Rubric for Biographies

	Excellent (4 pts.)	Well-done (3 pts.)	Average (2 pts.)	Needs Work (1 pt.)
Writing- Content	Extra but pertinent information is included	Missing no information	Missing one or two pieces of information but no incorrect information	Missing several pieces of information or some information is incorrect
Word Processing	Paragraph has no grammar or spelling errors	Paragraph has one or two grammar or spelling errors	Paragraph has three or four grammar or spelling errors	Paragraph has five or more grammar or spelling errors
Picture- Appearance	Picture has two or three characteristics or symbols related to its topic	Picture has only one characteristic or symbol related to its topic	Picture has no characteristics or symbols related to its topic	Picture is indistinguishable or sloppy
Picture- Technical	Picture is in proper format and size and is placed, without help, into the document	Picture is in proper format and size	Picture is not the right size	Picture is not in the proper format